

Garmisch rings in holidays with annual gathering

By Hugh C. McBride

Germans and Americans with connections to the U.S. military community came together in Garmisch's Kongresshaus Dec. 6 to celebrate their nations' historic friendship and ring in the holiday season.

"In a year when much has been made about tensions among nations, it is truly refreshing to come together in a community that can only be described as a shining example of the power of positive relationships," said Col. Gwendolyn Bonéy-Harris, commander of the 6th Area Support Group.

Bonéy-Harris, who hosted the annual event, said the gathering was a celebration of the power of family.

"Christmas is a holiday closely associated with thoughts of home," she said, "and many of [the event's attendees] have gone above and beyond the call of duty to create a welcoming community for individuals who are far from their original homes."

Dr. John P. Rose, director of the George C. Marshall Center, said the effects of Garmisch's spirit of international cooperation and its support of the Marshall Center are felt far beyond the borders of Bavaria.

"Garmisch-Partenkirchen is an international city and its citizens are shaping the peace and prosperity of Europe by their generosity and support," Rose said.

In addition to dinner and dancing, event attendees also had the opportunity to make last-minute pleas to everyone's favorite elf, Santa Claus.



Andrea Winter
The George C. Marshall Center's Lt. Col. Jack Riley and his wife, Libby, spend a moment with a jolly old elf at Garmisch's annual German-American Christmas Ball.

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Col. Gwendolyn Bonéy-Harris
6th Area Support Group Commander

NEWS & NOTES

Holiday closures, changes in Garmisch

■ The **Community Mailroom** will be open Dec. 20, noon to 2 p.m. and Dec. 24 until 5 p.m.

■ The **Army Post Office** is closed Dec. 24, 25 and 31 and Jan. 1. Normal operations resume Dec. 26 and Jan. 2.

■ **Army Community Service** is closed Dec. 30 to Jan. 2.

■ The **Garmisch Community Chapel Sunday school** will not be held Dec. 21 to Jan. 4, and **Bible studies** (except men's) will not be held Dec. 16 to 30.

■ The **Burke Lodge** is closed Dec. 25 and 26 and Jan. 1. It will be open Dec. 31, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

■ The **Mueller Fitness Center** is closed Dec. 25 and Jan. 1. Through February, weekend hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

School hosts winter program

The Garmisch American School presents its winter program Dec. 18 at 6:30 p.m. in the school's multi-purpose room. Students in grades kindergarten to fifth and the middle school chorus will perform.

For details call 440-2611/civ. 08821-750-611.

T-Shirt shop now hiring

Help is wanted at the AAFES T-shirt shop that is coming soon to Garmisch. A part-time position is available; hours are flexible.

For information call Rudi Simon at 08821-912-848 or e-mail rudisimon@t-online.de.

Relax at the fitness center

Come out for a relaxing massage or beauty treatment with Klaudia and Linda at the Mueller Fitness Center on Sheridan Kaserne.

Swedish, polarity, Shiatsu (acupressure), stretching and reflexology are available seven days a week. Beauty treatments are available Saturdays through Wednesdays.

For details call the fitness center at 440-2747/civ. 08821-750-747.

Go skiing with Outdoor Rec

Outdoor Recreation is taking a ski trip to Ischgl, Jan. 10, Schnalstal, Jan. 17 to 19 and Sölden, Feb. 7. Sign up now; the cost is \$75.

For more information call 440-2747/civ. 08821-750-747.

Burke Center views Lord of the Rings

The Pete Burke Community Center will show the extended version of "The Lord of the Rings: the Two Towers" Dec. 18 at 6:30 p.m.

Refreshments will be available.

For details call Jessica at 440-2638/civ. 08821-750-638 or e-mail jessica.roberson@garmisch.army.mil.

ACS holds newcomer's orientation class

Army Community Service is holding the next Community Newcomer's Orientation Jan. 5, 8 a.m. to noon, in the Pete Burke Community Center.

Anyone new to the community or those who have not had the opportunity to attend a briefing should take this class to become more familiar with what Garmisch has to offer.

A bus tour of the Garmisch area will be provided in the afternoon for those interested. Pre-registration is required.

For details or to make a reservation call 442-2777/civ. 08821-759-777.

Thrift shop looking for volunteers

The Garmisch Thrift Shop is looking for volunteers to help out, particularly Tuesdays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Call Monica Haschak at 442-2552/civ. 08821-759-552, e-mail mohagsd@hotmail.com or stop by the shop.

Holiday worship in Garmisch

Dec. 20

Catholic mass, 5:30 p.m.

Dec. 21

Fourth Sunday of Advent worship service, 10:45 a.m.

Dec. 24

Nativity of the Lord and Children's Pageant, 3 p.m.

Christmas Eve candlelight service, 7 p.m.

Dec. 27

Catholic mass, 5:30 p.m.

Dec. 28

Worship service, 10:45 a.m.

Dec. 31

Watchnight service, 10:30 p.m. to midnight
(with refreshments)

For more information call 440-2819/civ. 08821-750-819.